

December 2007 Calendar

COMMISSION MEETING IS TUESDAY, DEC. 11 AT 7:00 PM

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING IS TUESDAY, DEC. 18, 2007

"Community Center Design Presentation"

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM, in the Auditorium (9301 Collins Ave.)

Education Committee..... Meeting will be held Wednesday, December 5, at 8:00 pm
 Green Committee.....First Wednesday of the month, at 6:30 pm (12/05/07)
 Parks & Recreation Committee.....Third Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm (12/20/07)
 Planning & Zoning BoardTo be Announced
 Tourist Bureau..... First Monday of the month, at 6:00 pm (12/03/07)

Holiday Extravaganza (Snow on the Beach).....Dec. 8

New Year's Eve Gala.....Dec. 31

HOLIDAY HOURS:

TUES., DEC. 25 Christmas Day
 TUES., JAN 1/08 New Year's Day

Town Hall, the Surfside Library, Tourist Bureau, Beach Club,
 Community Center, and Tennis Center are CLOSED Christmas Day.
 Town Hall, the Surfside Library, and Tourist Bureau are CLOSED New Year's Day.
 Beach Club, Community Center and Tennis Center are OPEN New Year's Day.

UPCOMING:

Family Fun Day.....Jan. 13, 2008
 Movie Night in the Park.....Jan. 26, 2008

Please note that all times & dates listed, except Town Commission meetings, are tentative and subject to change. To verify the information, contact Town Hall at (305) 861-4863, visit the Website www.townofsurfsidefl.gov or tune in to Cable Channel 77.

Town Commission

Charles W. Burkett	Mayor
Howard S. Weinberg	Vice Mayor
Marc Imberman	Commissioner
Steven Levine	Commissioner
Mark Blumstein	Commissioner

Town E-Mail

Barguelles@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Town Officials

W.D. Higginbotham	Town Manager
Beatris Arguelles	Town Clerk
Weiss, Serota et al.	Town Attorney
David E. Allen	Police Chief

Town Commission/Manager E-Mails

mayor@townofsurfsidefl.gov
hweinberg@townofsurfsidefl.gov
mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov
slevine@townofsurfsidefl.gov
mblumstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov
wdh@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Business Numbers

Town Hall	(305) 861-4863
Community Center	(305) 866-3635
Tennis Courts	(305) 866-5176
Tourist Bureau	(305) 864-0722
Library	(305) 865-2409
Surfside Police Department	(305) 861-4862

Emergency Only

Fire/Police	(305) 861-1115
All Other:	(305) 861-4862

Town of Surfside

P.O. Box 546853

9293 Harding Avenue

Surfside, Florida 33154

www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

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Surfside Town Gazette

December 2007

Mayor's View



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The dramatic recent election on term extensions should be a reminder to any who do not believe that our residents are

paying close attention to the happenings in our Town and want real results and not a lot of political hot air. I have full confidence that Surfsiders want as much control over what happens in Town as possible and want results from their elected officials. Each time I vote on a matter I remind myself of this

Town Manager Bids Surfside A Fond Farewell

November 13, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Commission:

I first entered these chambers on the December Commission Meeting night in 2005. I recall the evening very well as it was my birthday. At 11:55 PM that evening I was selected as Surfside's new Town Manager; it was one of my most memorable birthdays. During the ensuing days and weekends I spent time in the office until January 30, 2006,

when I became your full time Town Manager.

We have seen many changes over the past two years. None the least was the election of four new Commission



W.D.
Higginbotham, Jr.

(Continued on page 4)

simple truth, which surely applies to the following subjects.

The Community Center

As your representative on the Commission, I've tried to do three basic things: 1) Keep my campaign promises, 2) Listen to each and every opinion and 3) In the end, vote to do what I think is best for all. Regarding the Community Center (CC), one of my promises had been to put the issue to a vote of all residents as to whether the CC should be torn down and rebuilt or renovated. This was initially accomplished and the Commission had voted unanimously to allow the vote, but reversed course at the last meeting. During that reversal vote, I strongly reiterated my desire to allow the residents to ultimately

(Continued on page 7)



Season's Greetings!



Inside This Issue...

Mayor's View	p. 1 & 7
Town Manager's Farewell.....	p. 1 & 4
Community Center Design Presentation	p. 1
Commissioner's Corner	p. 2
Vice-Mayor Lands Grant Money	p. 3
Message from Commissioner Levine	p. 4
Special Election Results	p. 5
Free Metered Parking Update / Chain Link Fence Ordinance	p. 5
Town Manager's Report.....	p. 6
Commission Resolutions / Ordinances	p. 6 & 8
Town Gazette: Hard Copy vs. On-line?	p. 7
Green Committee / Commission Seeks Surfside Architect	p. 8
New Year's Eve Gala to Benefit Log Cabin Nursery	p. 9
Meet Your Neighbor: Jimmy Corona	p. 10
Education Committee	p. 10 & 15
Tourist Bureau	p. 10, 11 & 15
Business District News.....	p. 15
Surfside Library	p. 16
Parks & Recreation Department	p. 12-14, 16-20
Police Department	p. 20-23
December Calendar	p. 24

SPECIAL
COMMISSION MEETING:
Tues., Dec. 18, 2007
5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

**"COMMUNITY CENTER
DESIGN PRESENTATION"**

SURFSIDERS:
See The Center
You Helped Create!

In The Auditorium,
9301 Collins Avenue.

Commissioner's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It's time for the holidays! Be on the lookout for many festivities around Town with lots of decorations for our residents and guests.

For our returning seasonal residents, welcome back! Get ready to enjoy the many events planned for December, including the Holiday Extravaganza Snow on the Beach with a Green (environment friendly) theme scheduled for December 8 with a visit from a special guest, the Festival Flea Market on December 13, and the New Year's Gala at the Community Center followed by fireworks, during the evening of December 31. For children out of school on winter break looking for fun and activity (or parents looking for a breather – like Dalia and I), please check out the Town's winter camp. Speaking of children, I also want to take this opportunity to recognize the undefeated Surfside Cyclones - our local, traveling youth soccer team - for successfully representing our community.

Now to the business, I am proud to report to you this month on the following items:

1. Community Center Progress;
2. Business District; and
3. County Partnerships.

Community Center Progress

Your Commission continues to move briskly on delivery of a new Community Center. I am proud to report that at the November 13, 2007 Commission meeting, the Commission unanimously approved my motion to accept the recommendation of our Town Architect to

demolish our existing center and construct our brand new Community Center and Pool. Congratulations Surfside!! We are on our way to realization of a dream – our new Community Center and Pool. As I write this, I anxiously await your comments at our public input session scheduled for November 20. Please come to the December 18th special meeting to preview detailed conceptual plans of our future Community Center.

Business District

Our business district continues to improve. New double banners line the streets. Improved landscaping and expanded businesses are on the way. Additional parking to the Abbott lot consistent with the Charrette is moving ahead to workshop. Priority parking for Green vehicles – Hybrids, FlexFuels and Electric (not including golf carts) is approved. And, valet parking is back!

County Partnerships

I continue to interface with our County government and our District representative, the Honorable Sally Heyman. Recently, through Commissioner Heyman's office and in partnership with the heroic firefighters of Miami-Dade County serving the Town of Surfside and our neighboring municipalities, the Town was able to benefit by receiving dozens of smoke detectors during Fire Safety Week. In addition, Miami-Dade County firefighters volunteered to install these smoke detectors free of charge to anyone requiring their assistance. If anyone would like a smoke detector and was unable to get

one during the free distribution, please contact me or Ms. Wanda Flores at the Town of Surfside Police Department, wflores@townofsurfsidefl.gov, 305-861-4862.



Mark Blumstein

I was also honored to represent the Town of Surfside at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Dog Park at Greynolds Park East on Biscayne Blvd just north of 163rd Street. Representatives from municipalities throughout Northeast Miami-Dade County joined with the Honorable Sally Heyman to dedicate this new park to dog lovers in our neighborhood. Joining me at this event was my son Joel along with his recently adopted pet Ore, who he inherited from his grandfather. Please visit the Dog Park. There are two park areas – one for larger dogs and another for the smaller ones. Surfside's Dog Parks remain on the To Do list as discussed during our Charrette.

Conclusion

I wish the residents, guests, Town Administration and Staff a healthy and happy holiday season. Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and Happy Kwanzaa to all! Make it a safe and wonderful New Year. Surfside 2008 – Making it Great!

Faithfully yours,

Mark



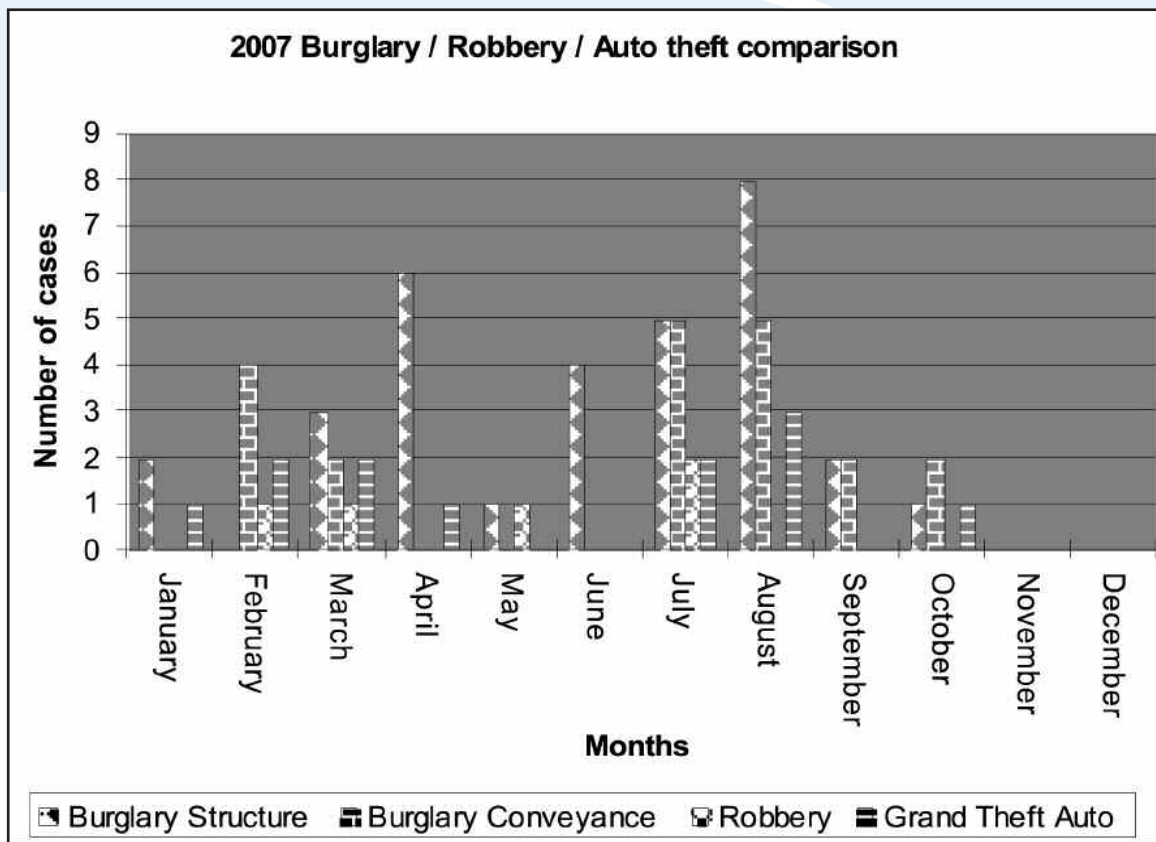
New Dog Park Opens at Greynolds Park East

(L-R) County Commissioner (District 4), Sally Heyman and her dog "Lucy", Joel Blumstein with "Oreo" and Surfside Commissioner Mark Blumstein.



Fire Safety Week

(L-R) Surfside Commissioner Mark Blumstein, County Commissioner (District 4) Sally Heyman and Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Captain Abel Fernandez.



POLICE SURVIVAL TRAINING

In recent months the entire South Florida community has joined police agencies in mourning the tragic loss of dedicated law enforcement professionals. Crime Prevention/Training Coordinator, Tom Lederman, recently held an important class for the men and women of the Surfside Police Department in Officer Survival Training to improve the participants' survival skills. Through practical, scenario based training, the officers learned new defense strategies and tactics. Firearms training, utilizing simunition, was a critical component of this in-service program.

SURFSIDE POLICE CRIME STATISTICS Monthly Activity by Classification

CLASSIFICATION	SEPT	OCT	+/-
HOMICIDE	0	0	0
INVOLUNTARY SEXUAL BATTERY	0	0	0
LEWD / LASCIVIOUS.....	0	1	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT - BATTERY.....	0	0	0
BURGLARY STRUCTURE.....	2	2	0
BURGLARY CONVEYANCE	2	1	-1
GRAND THEFT	5	5	0
FRAUD	3	1	-2
ROBBERY	0	0	0
GRAND THEFT AUTO	0	1	1
TOTAL PART ONE CRIMES	12	11	-1
BATTERY SIMPLE	1	1	0
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.....	3	1	-2
THEFT UNDER.....	3	3	0
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF.....	5	0	-5
DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE.....	7	0	-7
TOTAL PART II CRIMES	19	5	-14
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	623	728	105
ARRESTS.....	56	42	-14
PARKING CITATIONS	743	653	-90

OFFICER IAN LEONARD REACHES 20 YEAR MILESTONE OF SERVICE TO THE SURFSIDE COMMUNITY

Recently, Officer Ian Leonard celebrated his 20th year of service with the Surfside Police Department. Officer Leonard is the senior officer in the police department and many of the younger officers go to him for advice and guidance.

During his tenure, Officer Leonard has been assigned to the Patrol Division. Ofc. Leonard has worked in Marine Patrol and is also certified to operate the all terrain vehicle.

Congratulations!



Officer Ian Leonard

John Gentile & Joseph Schaefer Recognized As Surfside Police Officers Of The Month



(L-R) Police Officer **Joseph Schaefer**, Police Explorers **Stephanie Gomez**, **Gabby Perez**, **Bobby Gabriel**, **Carlos Ibarcena** and Police Officer **John Gentile**.

At the Commission Meeting held on Nov. 13, 2007 John Gentile and Joseph Schaefer were selected as Officers of the Month by the Surfside Police Department. Early this year, Officers Gentile and Schaefer approached Police Chief Dave Allen and asked him if they could start a Police Explorer Program in Surfside.

The officers received permission and immediately began implementing the program. Under their supervision and guidance the Explorer Program has been a very positive experience for the young participants. Open to men and women, 14-21 years of age, the explorers meet once a week and receive training in a variety of police topics. The Explorers have participated in numerous community events and have been very helpful. Officers Gentile and Schaefer have unselfishly given their time and energy to make the explorer program the success it is today.

Police Explorers Honored

The Surfside Police Explorer program was started in December 2006. The program is designed to allow local youths the opportunity to interact directly with police officers and their department. Through the program, young men and women age 14-21 meet every Tuesday night from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to learn about the world of law enforcement. The explorers, following the completion of a probationary phase, are issued a uniform and gear belt. The explorers are then allowed to conduct ride-alongs with sworn officers of the Surfside Police Department during their tour of duty on the street. The Explorer Program develops leadership

skills and discipline in its members, teaches ethical standards, and stresses the importance of community service. Many participants in the explorer programs nationwide pursue law enforcement careers.



The Explorer Program is headed by Officer John Gentile and Officer Joseph Schaefer, a former participant in the program. The explorers have been involved in a number of community events, including the Pancake Breakfast, 4th of July on the Beach, Safety Day, the Dragon Boat Festival, Family Fun Day,

the Fitness Festival, the Art Festival, the Halloween Haunted House, the 5K Run, Jazz Concert and the recent car wash to honor slain Miami-Dade Police Officer Jose Somohano. Although not yet a year old, the Surfside Explorer Program has made great strides and hopes to have its explorers enrolled in state competitions next year.



A Message from Vice-Mayor Howard Weinberg

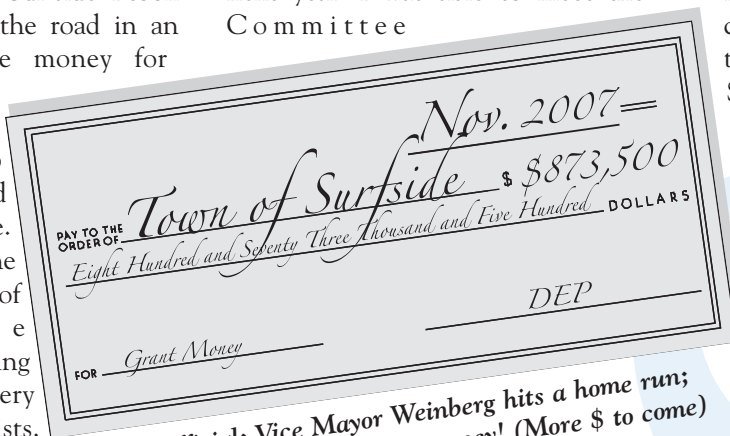
Greetings Neighbor:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. I am writing to you at this time with an update on a couple of topics that have been priorities of mine. The news, my friends, is very good.

Most of you have heard me speak again and again about the inequity of grant monies going to our neighboring communities and not to Surfside. I took it upon myself to hit the road in an effort to bring home money for Surfside's important projects. It was, in my opinion, time for us to "get in the game" and receive our fair share. Last year, I went to the Florida Chamber of Commerce Environmental Permitting Summer School (very interesting to scientists, geologists, engineers etc. otherwise extremely technical and some would even say boring!). I had but one intention- make connections that could lead to funding for our Town. This Summer I went back again. I attended other seminars and lectures in between. Last month I traveled for the day to Tallahassee with the same goal.

I am pleased and proud to report that as a direct result of my efforts, I can state with great confidence that Surfside will be receiving upwards of 1 Million dollars in State of Florida grants. This is separate from the efforts of our outstanding grant writer and our outstanding lobbyist, both of whom I am working with in order to bring several million additional dollars to Surfside. We are extremely well positioned for these additional monies. By way of example, we applied to Tallahassee for 3-4 million dollars for park expansion and received a score of 140. A score of roughly 155 would have put us in the money this year. It is common for a project to hit pay dirt in the second year of applying. The most

important thing this year was to introduce Surfside as a player in this arena. Our score right out of the box was fantastic. By way of example, in the same funding pool, Bay Harbor received a score of 100 and Sunny Isles received a score of 85. As a result of the work we are doing with our grant writer and our Town Planners, we can and will raise our score between 15 and 40 points next year. I was able to meet the Committee



It's Official: Vice Mayor Weinberg hits a home run; brings in \$873,500 in grant money! (More \$ to come)

Members and I was able to speak to the staff members that actually evaluate our application. They told me that they were very pleased that we would be returning next year. We also plan to apply for similar grants for our new Community Center. I have invited our grant writer to explain the process in more detail at the Dec. 11th Commission Meeting. We are lucky to have her as part of our team.

As far as the monies that I have been able to procure through my own pounding the pavement, you may recall that in the past I mentioned that I had secured funding for pervious concrete and a green roof for the Community Center. I met again with the visionary that heads up the State's Bureau of Watershed Management and he is excited about Surfside's efforts to adhere to "Green" principles. In fact, he has stated his willingness to greatly expand the financial commitment he had previously made. He agrees that Surfside is ideally suited to become the "Model Green Community" for the entire State of Florida! Imagine how

proud we will be as Surfsiders, to be able to boast that we are home to the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified ocean-front municipal building in the country, and we are the leading Green Community in the State! I have invited the Bureau Chief to speak to the Commission as well.

The other update I want to give you is one that you have already noticed. That wonderful Jazz Concert on the beach was funded through the resort tax. Those events don't cost our residents any tax dollars (except for the tax you pay on your tab when dining out). As our restaurants thrive, the revenues to fund our wonderful concerts, 5K Run, Art Festival, etc. continue to grow. I have worked very hard to support our business district merchants and Eli Tourgeman's Surfside Business Association for two reasons: 1) When they do well Surfsiders are able to have more special events at no cost to our residents and 2) Quality of life is greatly increased when you can walk out of your door and go have a drink, a delicious dinner, some ice cream, listen to music, shop, etc. It is all paying off as you see Harding Ave. becoming a "dining destination" with new restaurants, valet parking, sidewalk dining, and soon a master meter parking system for our guests.

I hope all of you have a wonderful holiday season. Thanks to my colleagues on the Commission for unanimously approving my "Free Parking for Hybrid Vehicles" initiative.

As always, I welcome your comments at hweinberg@townofsurfsidefl.gov.

Your friend,
Howard



Howard Weinberg

Message from Commissioner Steven Levine

Hello Fellow Surfsiders!

Pick up any newspaper or magazine and chances are there will be an article or two inside concerning some environmental issue. Take yesterday's Miami Herald for example (as of this writing, Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2007). The headline is SEAPOW, and the article describes a Key West entrepreneur, Douglas Bedgood, who plans a green project using tidal turbines to provide enough electricity to power the Lower Keys. (<http://www.miamiherald.com/573/story/305681.html>)

The Spring 2007 issue for University of Miami (UM) Alumni - MIAMI headlines with Going Green - Eco-friendly practices the UM is pursuing in partnership with Green Seal. Recommendations include a green purchasing policy, using energy efficient copiers that have recyclable toner cartridges, etc (hint to our own Green Committee).

I mention these two to start off because they exemplify what the approach has to be - all of us as individuals as well as what government and corporations/institutions can do. As you all know, the Surfside Community Center will be torn down and built

anew. I believe all the commissioners as well as the mayor are in favor of having the building LEED Certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). According to the United States Green Building Council, LEED is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings (<http://www.usgbc.org/>). Typically building to LEED Certification adds approximately 5% to the cost - money well worth it in energy/water savings, etc. over the lifetime of the building, not to mention the environmental statement that we're making.

Other individuals are making a difference as well. Check out Joseph Longo and his Plasma Converter (<http://www.popsci.com/popsci/science/873aae7bf86c0110vgn-vcm100004eebcddrdr.html>), which promises to make landfills a relic of the past. As individuals we can make a difference. We all know the usual tips - turns off lights and fans, raise the thermostat to 78 degrees, etc. I take the coffee grinds out every day and spread them over my lawn and flower bed. I throw the filter in the corner of the

backyard and in a few days it decomposes into nothing visible. Save water - don't water your lawn. But if you've been doing it - don't stop cold turkey. Our grass - Floratam, which is a type of St. Augustine grass was specifically developed to withstand dry spells. With less water from above, the roots go down deeper in search of water below - up to 7 inches, keeping the grass green and strong. But if you water, the grass only develops a shallow root system, thus as soon as you stop, it turns yellow - thus defeating the purpose for which it was bred!

There are many more things we can do to keep our planet green. By making a commitment to not only think green, but act green, collectively and individually, we can make a difference. Together with private enterprise I believe we can not only stem the tide of global warming, but actually reverse it!

I invite your thoughts, and extend my warmest wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy New Year.

Steve Levine



Steven Levine

W.D. Bids Fond Farewell

(Continued from page 1)

members, including a new Mayor; an 80% change in the elected body. I venture to say there is not one City Manager that would not agree that such a change presented a daunting task. We got past those transition days and set out to address the issues that were important to all of you.

By the end of 2006 we had closed out pending litigation that had plagued the Town for years; we eliminated nearly four (400) hundred liens, many of which were onerous, on our nearly 1,300 single family homes; a new upbeat and service oriented attitude was beginning to show our residents that we at Town Hall were the solution,

not the problem. By the end of 2006 our police department had new strong leadership and a new direction. We now have a police department focused on serving our community and community oriented policing. For the first time in contemporary history, our police department is part of the community and the community part of the department.

For the past two years we have earned a Certificate from the Governmental Finance Officers Association for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This achievement is very difficult to attain and something to be proud of. I believe the Certificate will also be earned for the fiscal year just passed. Further, we have only just begun to address our aging and failing infrastruc-

ture, but the good news is we HAVE begun the process.

I have enjoyed my tenure as your Town Manager. I am energized in knowing I have something to offer my community and the satisfaction it gives me to know I can make a positive impact on the quality of life of so many. However, I believe it is time to move into another chapter of my life. As such, please consider this my resignation and that my last day as Town Manager of Surfside will be Friday, December 14, 2007.

Sincerely,
W.D. Higginbotham, Jr.
Town Manager

ARE YOU MISSING THE FULL COLOR PAGES? PLEASE TELL YOUR TOWN COMMISSION.

A MESSAGE FROM POLICE CHIEF DAVID ALLEN: The Year in Review



Police Chief,
David Allen

Over the past year there have been sweeping changes and positive improvements within the Police Department. A mission statement and departmental values were created to challenge the police department to provide the highest level of service to the community and emphasize integrity, professionalism, respect, and fairness. Standards and expectations were raised. Teamwork and morale have been turned around. Crime has decreased and at the same time enforcement (arrests, citations) has increased. Most significant, relationships and trust with the community have been built.

Administrative

A Personnel Staffing and Deployment Analysis of the Police Department was conducted one year ago. Reviews and audits of criminal investigations; internal investigations; property and evidence procedures; backgrounds and hiring procedures; budget, forfeiture funds, and overtime; fleet and equipment; and training were implemented. All were deficient and needed updating or total revision. New Departmental Rules and Regulations were created and put in place. All officers were immediately trained in high liability issues – pursuits, deadly force, non-lethal weapons, occupational exposure communicable diseases, domestic violence, and juvenile arrest procedures. All officers were retrained and certified with their firearm. Performance evaluations and line inspections were implemented. Police reports were revised and made uniform. We have applied for and executed the accreditation process for the police department with the Florida Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Operational

Twelve new employees were hired. Six others were promoted. New positions were created – K-9, Strike Force, Communication Supervisor, Crime Prevention, Training. Police cars were redesigned with new logos. Officers were equipped with new radios and Tasers. Electronic reporting has been implemented. Mobile laptop field reporting and electronic citations will be put into operation shortly. A DUI Intoxilyzer was purchased and in place at the station for enforcement by Surfside and neighboring law enforcement agencies. A Fitness Center was constructed for use by all Town employees. Officers have been trained and certified for bicycles, motorcycles, K-9, all terrain vehicles, officer survival, self defense, rifles, criminal investigations, internal investigations, field training officer, accreditation manager, DUI agency inspector and School Resource Officer.

Community Services

New programs have been implemented – Citizen Police Academy, monthly Crime Prevention Workshops, Elderly Reassurance Program, Police Explorer Program, Hurricane Preparedness, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Crime Prevention Fairs, Holiday Patrol Enhancement Program, Free Business and Residential Security Surveys, Police Athletic/Activities League, Victim Advocate, Self Defense Awareness and Familiarization Exchange (SAFE), Halloween Safety Day, Drug Awareness Day, School Resource Officer, Citizen Satisfaction Surveys, Crime Prevention Speakers Bureau for business and community groups.

I am very proud of the professionalism shown by all of the sworn officers and civilian members of the Surfside Police Department. It has been a privilege to serve as their Chief and I thank them for their strong demonstration of support throughout this past year. They have truly dedicated themselves to upholding the principles and practice of community policing. As a law enforcement agency, the Surfside Police Department has made tremendous strides in the past 12 months, and will continue to move forward during the coming year.

HAVE A SAFE AND WONDERFUL HOLIDAY!

HOLIDAY PATROL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



During the December Holiday Season there is usually an increase in the number of strong-arm or armed robberies which occur in the driveway of a victim's residence. In order to prevent such incidents from occurring, the Town of Surfside Police Department will be conducting a "Holiday Patrol Enhancement Program" from Saturday, December 15, 2007 through Monday, December 24, 2007.



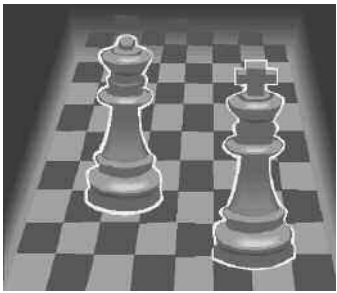
WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- Any resident of the Town of Surfside, living alone who is returning home from holiday shopping between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., may request to have police present upon their arrival to their home. Residents should contact the Surfside Police Department at (305) 861-4862 before they expect to arrive home.

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO PROVIDE?

- When calling the Surfside Police Department, residents should give their name, address, type and color of the vehicle they are driving, and the approximate time of arrival to their home. A uniformed officer will be dispatched to meet the resident at their home.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!



The First Recreational Chess Tournament in Town of Surfside

On Sunday Nov. 4, 2007 the Parks and Recreation Department hosted a successful 2 1/2 hour recreational Chess Tournament. The 50 children entered, represented beginner to advanced skill levels, and they competed with their peers for trophies.



SURFSIDE PD HOSTS CRIME PREVENTION FAIR



On Thursday, November 15 the Surfside Police Department hosted a Crime Prevention Fair in the Publix Supermarket driveway at 94th & Harding Avenue. Other participants in the event included the Citizen's Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County and the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Community Relations Bureau.

Holiday Awareness was the theme of the evening. Representatives were on hand to discuss fire prevention & safeguards for seasonal lighting and decorations. Other popular subjects were how to protect oneself when Internet buying, how to stay ALERT during the holidays (be mindful of your surroundings at ATM's, in shopping malls, and in parking lots), and to always maintain awareness of one's belongings (wallets, purses, and packages).

The Surfside Police is offering a Holiday Patrol Enhancement Program, from Dec. 15 – Dec. 24, as a special service for residents. Any resident living alone who is returning home from holiday shopping between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., may request to have police present upon their arrival to their home. Further details are available on page 21 of this Gazette.



Enjoy the holiday season but please remember to have

- Safe Celebrations: Don't Drink & Drive •



REFERENDUM BALLOT ISSUE

November 6, 2007 Special Election Results

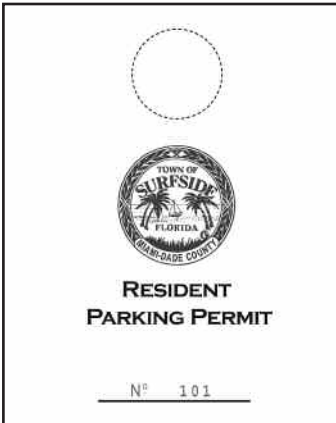
QUESTION 1: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE OF MAYOR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

It was proposed that all two (2) year terms be changed to four (4) year terms with a transition being made so that the terms were to be staggered. **RESULT: Proposed Amendment Not Adopted**

QUESTION 2: PROPOSED TERM LIMITS FOR MAYOR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

It was proposed that the Mayor and the Commissioners be limited to eight (8) consecutive years provided that any Commissioner after having served eight (8) consecutive years may thereafter

serve one (1) additional term, as mayor, if elected. **RESULT: Proposed Amendment Not Adopted**



The end of the current year is just a few weeks away. The free metered parking program for Surfside residents, instituted by the Commission, in conjunction with the downtown merchants, will be continued. Town residents are encouraged to shop, dine, relax and patronize the local business community.

FREE METERED PARKING UPDATE

Your current parking pass expires on Dec. 31, 2007. There will be a six (6) day grace period beyond that date before ticketing resumes on Jan. 7, 2008.

Please note that the Town will not automatically mail out new parking passes.

If you are a resident who would like to continue participating in this program, you must re-register your vehicle at Town Hall and complete a new application form. Parking permits are available at the Surfside municipal building, located at 9293 Harding Avenue, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The permits should be hung, clearly visible, from the vehicle's rearview mirror. To obtain a permit, Surfsiders are required to bring ***an acceptable proof of residency and their license plate number.*** Proof of acceptable residency examples include, but are not limited to:

- A current driver's license with a Surfside address
- Water bill
- Property tax bill
- Rental or lease agreement

If you have any questions, please call (305) 861-4863 to obtain further information.



Chain Link Fence Ordinance



On Tues., May 15 the Town Commission adopted Ordinance 07-1478, Section 90-183 "Fences, Walls, and Hedges", with an effective date of May 25, 2007. Please note the following:

- Chain link fences located in the front yard or street side yard should have been removed by Nov. 21, 2007.
- According to the Ordinance, there is no grandfathering of

chain link fences in the front yard or in the street side yard.

- According to the Ordinance, there is no grandfathering of chain link fences in interior side yard and rear yards if plant materials do not cover the fence.
- There are however special accommodations that can be made for the elderly, and other residents who demonstrate a hardship.

The Compliance Date was Wed., Nov. 21, 2007

For further details as to how this Ordinance may apply to you, please contact Code Compliance Officer, Mike Garcia at (305) 861-4863 ext. 230.

ARE YOU MISSING THE FULL COLOR PAGES? PLEASE TELL YOUR TOWN COMMISSION.



Surfside Commission Highlights



1. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager stated that the Police Chief, Dave Allen, had distributed copies of the monthly Surfside Police Department Activity Report.

Regarding the Parking Meter system and equipment, the Town Manager informed the Commission that LAZ parking, who currently operates and maintains Surfside parking meters, has submitted a comprehensive proposal to upgrade and update the parking meters and parking system. The proposal has been distributed for review and recommendations will be made at the regular Commission meeting in December.

As an update of the current municipal employment vacancies the Commission was informed that for quite some time the Town has been recruiting to fill the Assistant Town Manager position as well as the Finance Director/Controller/Town Accountant. The Town has not been successful in attracting qualified candidates. The Town Manager indicated that he had requested proposals from three recruiting firms that focus on the public sector. To date, there have been no responses from them as well. Upon tendering his resignation, the Town Manager suggested to the Commission that they may want to change the focus of the candidate search, and indicated that he would provide the Commission with recommendations and projected time frames.

One year ago the Town Commission approved the issuance of parking permits to Town residents so they could park free of charge at the metered spaces in Surfside. This was done to encourage residents to shop at, and dine in, and stimulate business in the downtown commercial district. The Town Manager reported that the program has been well received and we now have over 2,000 permits being automatically re-issued quarterly. However, the program is also being abused. The administration continues to see a growing number of the permits being used by non-residents. As such, beginning with the permits issued for the first quarter of

2008, the Town will require residents to re-new their paperwork, rather than automatically receive a new permit in the mail, without verification of Surfside residency.

The Town Manager provided an update on the following projects:

- **Surfside Beach Path** – Survey work has been completed. Title work/research is presently being done by the Town Attorney. Final design and requests for proposals will follow.

- **Commission Chamber Broadcast Enhancements** – All equipment (except three additional cameras) has been received and Town Consultants will be meeting with the Contractor (AVI) on Nov.12 to review and discuss installation schedule; subsequently, installation will commence.

- **Landscaping of the Downtown Business District and South on Harding Avenue to include Town Hall Complex** – The Town is awaiting response to a letter written from the Town Manager to Florida International University requesting Graduate Student Program participation.

- **Generator Relocation** – Waiting on recommendation from engineer; anticipated by Nov. 16.

- **Valet Parking** – Has been successfully operating for two weeks.

- **Parks & Recreation Department Relocation** – Staff planning underway.

- **Surfside Library Relocation** – Staff planning underway.

- **Evaluation & Appraisal Report (EAR)** – Public hearing to be scheduled for the Dec. Planning and Zoning Board Meeting.

- **New Town Zoning Code** – Zoning Code complete and scheduled for review at the Nov. 29 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting.

The Following Ordinance was adopted on Second Reading:

2. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida amending Chapter 90 "Zoning" of the Code of the Town to amend

Section 90-184 "Marine Structure" to permit an extension of the length of docks into Biscayne Bay from twenty (20) to thirty-five (35) feet; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date.
Vote: UNANIMOUS

The following Ordinance was adopted on First Reading:

3. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida amending the Code to create Chapter 75 "Naming, Renaming, and Co-Designation of Town Faculties, Roads Or Property"; setting forth procedures for the naming, renaming, co-designation, of municipal roads, facilities or properties; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

The following Resolutions were approved:

4. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, certifying and declaring the results of the special election held on November 6, 2007 to vote on two charter amendment questions. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

5. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, providing for the fiscal year 2007/2008 police confiscation fund expenditure in the amount of fifty-four thousand dollars (\$54,000) to be funded by proceeds of confiscated funds. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

6. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, providing for the fiscal year 2007/2008 police confiscation fund expenditure in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be funded by proceeds of confiscated funds. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

7. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, providing for the fiscal year 2007/2008 police confiscation fund
(Continued on page 8)

December Programs

Surfside Community Center Adult Classes and Programs

Yoga:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$65 (per person 8 weeks = 8 classes)

Enjoy invigorating and relaxing yoga classes while engaging in techniques that benefit your mind, body, and spirit. You will learn proper breathing exercises and relaxation methods long associated with this proven ancient tradition. **No Class Dec. 24 & 31.**



Monday December 10 – February 11 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Zumba:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$65 (per person 8 weeks = 8 classes)

ZUMBA combines high energy and motivating music with unique moves and combinations that make it easy for dancers and non-dancers alike to have fun while getting fit. Zumba uses a fusion of Latin and international dance themes (from the Colombian Cumbia to Merengue, Salsa, and Calypso) creating a dynamic, exciting, effective fitness system. The routines feature aerobic/fitness interval training with a combination of fast and slow rhythms that tone and sculpt the body. Classes will take place at the Community Center (9301 Collins Ave). **No Class Dec. 24, 27, 31 and Jan. 3.**



Monday November 19 - January 21 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Thursday December 6 - February 7 7:00 - 8:00 pm



DECEMBER GAME ROOM HOURS:

CLOSED DEC. 24 - JAN. 2

Monday - Friday 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm



Surfside Tennis Center

The regularly scheduled Hours of Operation are listed below:



Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 10:00 pm
Friday - Sunday 8:30 am to 5:30 pm



“Meet, Greet, and Play Tennis”



Monday Adult 8:00 - 10:30 pm.
Fee: \$9 per person for residents, • \$10 non-resident per person



“Adult Doubles”

Thursday Adult 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Fee: \$6 per person for residents / \$8 non-residents per person. Reservations Required

For more information contact the Tennis Center at (305) 866-5176.

Miami-Dade Adult Education classes end Dec. 20, 2007. New schedule & fees to be announced.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Following Parks & Recreation Department Programs End:

12/06	12/12	12/13	12/17	12/18	12/19	12/20	12/21	12/22
Youth Soccer	Youth Soccer	Adult Soccer	Ballet Ages (3-5) & (6-10)	Jump Rope	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Ballet Ages (3-5)	Arts & Crafts
			Kidokinetics for "Tots"	Pilates	Acrobatics & Tumbling	Hip Hop Jazz		Chess
					Pilates	Kidokinetics		
						Senior Bingo		
						Yogalates		

NEW PROGRAM SCHEDULE TO BEGIN JANUARY 2008

Senior Program Every Wednesday, in the Lanai Room 10:00 a.m. - Noon



The Parks and Recreation Department is hosting a morning of activities for Seniors at the Community Center. Come join and play dominoes, cards, board games, mahjong, and more! Activities are Free. Coffee and Light Refreshments will be served.

Town of Surfside Parks & Recreation Department in conjunction with the Police Department

The Parks and Recreation Department and Police Department are proud to announce the annual Family Fun and Drug Awareness Day. Come out and join us at the Community Center with your family for a day filled with Fun, Food, and Entertainment. All Residents should come prepared to show either a Surfside ID or a picture ID with your Surfside Address.

Sunday, January 13, 2008

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Located at:
Community Center
9301 Collins Ave**



For more information contact The Town of Surfside Community Center at 305-866-3635 or visit www.townofsurfsidefl.gov



Mayor's View

(Continued from page 1)

decide, but could see that I was only one of five with that view and not wanting to be a party to slowing the project, which I think is vital for our Town, also voted to proceed. I voted to move forward because I've always assumed that a majority of our residents want a new and wonderful Community Center and lagoon pool, I'm just disappointed that following the concept design and cost estimates for the new center we couldn't take just a few days aside to mail out both options and allow our electorate to weigh in on such a momentous decision. Clearly, having the results of such a poll would have given me much confidence in our direction, which is why I thought it a good idea in the first place. One only has to look to the ballot proposal last month on election terms and at the high degree of confidence its Commission promoters had in the amount of public support for the proposed term extensions and limits. The ballot outcome, and the overwhelming negative vote on both proposals, clearly demonstrates why getting feedback from our voters is always a very good idea. Having said that, politically that train seems to have "left the station" and there is now a strong and focused effort to complete the new construction option and demolish the old building. I expect that any changes in this direction will have to be addressed at the next election in March at which time this Commission should hope that it will not regret taking a pass on the opportunity to allow Surfsiders a vote on the subject. I will however continue to push to preserve

the historic and architecturally significant MIMO emblem and façade in any design.

Town Manager, W.D. Higginbotham

How sad it is to lose our Manager, W.D. Higginbotham. Suffice to say, I don't believe it had to be this way, but I completely understand why.

W.D. served our residents with respect, care and an open door policy that was truly admirable. I'm very pleased that I had the opportunity to work and learn from W.D., as his attitude and level of cooperation was much admired.

I know I speak on behalf of many thankful Surfsiders in wishing W.D. the best of luck in all his future endeavors. He will be missed.

With regard to his replacement, I'm confident that prior to the election, we can maintain the good work that is moving forward with an interim replacement, but I feel very strongly that the selection of any permanent replacement should be the privilege of the newly elected Commission in March.

Police Union

Just as an aside, I would like to commend our entire Police Department and their Union, our Chief, David Allen and Manager, W.D. Higginbotham for working together, while considering their duty to the taxpayers of Surfside, and for providing our officers with a three year contract, that fairly and competitively balances fiscal responsibility and the cost of providing a highly motivated, highly professional, first class police department.

Legal Fees

They're still too high. While we are virtually lawsuit free, with the excep-

tion of some employee issues and we've invested in settling matters, redoing our codes, reinventing our planning and zoning ordinances, putting in place protections against height, density, destruction of historic properties and the like, adding a design review board and almost everything else new we've put in place in Town, I have found that lawyers seem to always have to be involved. This has cost a lot of money and I'm concerned. The positive view is that I expect many of these expenditures will be one time deals, our investments in resolving matters rather than creating problems and are specifically targeted for the good and welfare of our residents, as opposed to the good and welfare of the lawyers.

Holiday Decorations

Political correctness gone amuck! While I recognize that decorations in public settings have been a sore spot in politics, asking for snowflakes, winter scenes, maybe a combination of holiday trees and other seasonal portrayals such as Bal Harbour has, is not too much to ask. I had asked to increase the effort, over last year, to provide a festive holiday spirit in Town, but have met with much hand wringing about it. I have however been assured that there will be more "holiday feel" this year. Clearly there are lines, but maybe there are reasonable compromises to be had for the sake of all our kids, families, shoppers, merchants, visitors and all those who give thanks and want to share in the joy of the holidays. Speaking of which, I hope you and your loved ones have a wonderful, restful and healthy holiday season.

All the best from my family to yours,
Charles



SURFSIDE TOWN GAZETTE: Hard Copy versus On-line



DEAR RESIDENT....

In partnership with the Town's efforts to "Go Green", perhaps you no longer wish to receive a hard copy of the Surfside Gazette and would prefer to view it on the Town website. If this is the case, please contact Special Projects Coordinator, Jody Roodman, via email jroodman@townofsurfsidefl.gov with your full name and address to express your desire to be removed from the the Gazette mailing list. Please note it may take a month or two for the change to become effective.

Three Energy Saving Tips From The Green Advisory Committee

Did you know?

You can save energy by unplugging electronics, battery chargers, and other equipment when not in use. Taken together, these small items can use as much power as your refrigerator!



Did you know?

You can save energy by waiting until after 7 p.m. to use major appliances such as clothes washers/dryers and dishwashers.

Did you know?

You can save energy by turning your water heater down to 120° or the "Normal" setting when home, and to the lowest setting when away. Water heating accounts for about 13% of home energy costs.



Surfside Commission Highlights

(Continued from page 6)

expenditure in the amount of one hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars (\$155,000) to be funded by proceeds of confiscated funds. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

8. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, awarding a contract for professional consulting services by Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc to act as the town's planning, engineering, building and code compliance firm (request for qualifications to provide general consulting engineering, planning, building and code compliance services issued: May 10, 2007) (the "RFQ") (the "project") attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; providing for implementation of agreement; and providing for an effective date. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

tive date. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

9. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, approving and adopting rules and procedures for committees created by the Town Commission; and providing an effective date. **Vote: UNANIMOUS**

10. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida approving a lease agreement between the Town and Keith A. Gray, trustee for the lease of space located at 9482 Harding Avenue as set forth in Exhibit "A". **Vote: 4-1 (Commissioner Blumstein dissenting)**

In other matters...

The Commission voted to approve the recommendations of the Community Center Architect, Spillis Candella, approving the time line for

new construction of the facility, including the public input session date of November 20, 2007 and the design presentation date on December 18, 2007.

The Commission sunsetted the Charrette Committee and the Community Center Committee citing both committees had completed their assigned tasks.

The Commission appointed Peter Glynn to the Planning and Zoning Board replacing Mel Schlessner who resigned.

The Welcome Committee was reduced to five members from 10. The Commission will re-appoint members at their next Commission Meeting.

In regards to the Free Parking Permit program, the Commission agreed to have residents re-apply for the permits.

The Town Commission is currently seeking a Surfside resident, who is a licensed Florida ARCHITECT to serve on the Design Review Committee. For further information, please contact the Town Clerk at (305) 861-4863.

**ARE YOU MISSING THE FULL COLOR PAGES?
PLEASE TELL YOUR TOWN COMMISSION.**

THE MIAMI SHORES AQUATIC CENTER

10200 Biscayne Blvd.



Hours of Operation: Call (305) 795-2241, or check www.miamishoresvillage.com.

Bus Service Schedule Available: www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

Surfsiders must present a valid, updated resident ID card.



The Aquatic Center will be CLOSED on Dec. 24, 25, & 31, 2007 and on Jan. 1, 2008.



SURFSIDE BEACH CLUB

(December)

Rental Hours & Fees

Sunday - Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Fees: Lounge Chairs	Residents	\$3.00 for 3 hours or less; \$4.00 Full day
	Non-resident	\$6.00 for 3 hours or less; \$9.00 Full day
Umbrellas	Residents	\$2.00 for 3 hours or less; \$3.00 Full day
	Non-residents	\$4.00 for 3 hours or less; \$7.00 Full day



For Surfside Residents *only*: The 1st chair & umbrella rental is *free* for the day, per group/family. The fees listed above will apply for additional chair and umbrella rentals.

The Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department

Senior Day Trip

The Town of Surfside is hosting a Senior Trip to the Indoor Festival Flea Market:

Come and enjoy a "fun filled" day of shopping. Shoppers will be able to shop for clothing, purses, eyeglasses, jewelry and more!

Festival Indoor Flea Market

Thursday, December 13, 2007

The bus will depart at 9:00 am sharp from the Community Center

9301 Collins Ave

The bus will return at 4:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00

Includes twenty festival dollars with proper ID



Open to Surfside Residents and Non-Residents
Deadline to register will be Friday, December 7, 2007
For more information contact the Community Center at (305) 866-3635 or visit www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

The Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department

Winter Camp Reminder

Parents / Guardians don't forget to register your child for Surfside's Winter Camp

Camp Dates

Session I ~ December 26—28

Session II ~ January 2—4

Ages: 6 - 12

Camp will take place Wednesday thru Friday from 8:30am - 5:30pm at the Surfside Community Center

Cost

Surfside Residents \$ 60 per session
(Must bring proof of residency) \$100 per 2 week session

Non-Residents \$ 100 per session
\$ 140 per 2 week session

No Camp:

Dec. 24
Dec. 25
Dec. 31
Jan. 1

Note: There will be an additional fee for field trips (Field trips must be paid in Cash).

For more information contact the Community Center at 305-866-3635 or visit www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

SURFSIDE LIBRARY

Storytime: Will be held on Tues., Dec. 11, 2007 from 10:00 until 11:00 a.m. The library is closed Tuesday mornings, so please knock on the door for admittance. Storytime is open to children age 4 and under.

For your reading pleasure...

ADULT BOOKS:

Fiction:

- Bridge of Sighs *by Richard Russo*
- Stone Cold *by David Baldacci*
- The Wednesday Letters *by Jason F. Wright*
- He Sees You When You're Sleeping *by Mary Higgins Clark & Carol Higgins Clark*



Non-fiction:

- Kabul Beauty School *by Deborah Rodriguez*
- Christmas: Book 9 *by Gooseberry Patch (crafts & cookery)*

CHILDRENS' BOOKS:

- A Hanukkah Holiday Cookbook *by Emily Raabe* (Juvenile non-fiction)
- The Best Hanukkah Ever *by Barbara Diamond Goldin* (easy reader)
- Hanukkah Moon *by Deborah daCosta* (easy reader)
- A Wish to Be a Christmas Tree *by Colleen Monroe* (easy reader)
- The Christmas Wreath *by James Hoffman* (easy reader)
- The Star *By Ute Blaich* (easy reader)
- Franklin Y El Regalo De Navidad *by Paulette Bourgeois* (easy reader)
- Crafts for Kwanzaa *by Kathy Ross*



A Good Family Read -- A Christmas Carol *by Charles Dickens*

DVD's & Video's

Chanuka and Passover at Bubbe's • Santa Claus 3 - The Escape Claus • Deck the Halls
The Christmas Shoe • Ocean's Thirteen



The Library will be CLOSED:
Tues., Dec. 25, 2007 and Tues., Jan. 1, 2008.

Parks & Rec. Lifeguards Recognized

At the Commission meeting held on Tues. Nov. 13, Surfside Head Lifeguard, Justin Lorenz and full time Lifeguard, Pedro Barquin, were recognized for their quick and immediate response to a life threatening situation. The incident, which occurred on Oct. 8th of this year, involved the rescue of two female swimmers, in distress, caused by heavy rip current conditions.

After running approximately a quarter of a mile to get to the scene, and despite the red flag warnings, Justin and

Pedro entered the ocean and pulled the two female swimmers to safety.

The Surfside lifeguards immediately returned to the water to rescue two Bal Harbor police officers who found themselves in distress when they attempted to assist with the rescue of the females who had been in trouble originally. All the lifeguards involved, including those from Sunny Isles who provided jet-ski assistance, worked together to achieve a successful outcome.

Thank you Justin and Pedro!



(L-R) Surfside Head Lifeguard, **Pedro Barquin**, Aquatics Supervisor, **Jackie Villegran**, Parks & Recreation Director, **Tim Milian**, and Lifeguard **Justin Lorenz**.

SURFSIDE NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2007

9:00 PM - 1:00 AM

POOLSIDE

SURFSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER

EXCLUSIVELY FOR SURFSIDE RESIDENTS AND SURFSIDE HOTEL GUESTS

**FAVORS - REFRESHMENTS - MUSIC - DANCING - CHAMPAGNE
SPECIAL CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

FIREWORKS AT MIDNIGHT

SPECIAL EVENT: 11:00 PM - SILENT CHARITY AUCTION TO BENEFIT LOG CABIN NURSERY

GIFTS DONATED BY SURFSIDE BUSINESS MERCHANTS

ADMISSION BY ADVANCE TICKET ONLY. NO TICKETS SALES AT THE DOOR. NO GENERAL ADMISSION.

SURFSIDE RESIDENTS CAN PICK UP FREE ADVANCE TICKETS, WITH IDENTIFICATION, FROM THE SURFSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER (9301 Collins Ave), BEGINNING DECEMBER 10TH, FROM 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM. LIMIT FOUR TICKETS, WITH AN OPTION OF PURCHASING TWO ADDITIONAL GUEST TICKETS AT \$15.00 EACH. TOURISTS MUST BE REGISTERED AT A SURFSIDE RESORT AND CAN OBTAIN FREE ADVANCE TICKETS FROM THEIR INDIVIDUAL HOTELS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE TOURIST BUREAU AT (305) 864-0722.

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA Features

A SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT LOG CABIN NURSERY

The Surfside Tourist Bureau announces a special event at this year's festivities on New Year's Eve at the Community Center Gala for residents, and guests at our local hotels and motels. In addition to the music and fireworks, coffee, cake, noisemakers and champagne toast at midnight, a SILENT CHARITY AUCTION has been added to benefit our good neighbor, LOG CABIN NURSERY.

The following gift contributions will be on display early in the evening, and at 11:00 p.m. the successful high bidders of each item will be announced. The following is a sampling of auction items:

Log Cabin Nursery – 2 gift certificates (\$100 - \$150)

Southern Wines – 2 cases of wine

Oberle Opticians - \$200 gift certificate

Best Western Hotel – 2 days/3 nights

Durante Antiques & Gems – Designer Vase

Dr. E. Guerra, Surfside Dental Assoc. - \$559 Teeth Whitening Certificate/\$110 Cosmetic Veneer



Please join us to celebrate the New Year and demonstrate your support for the Log Cabin Nursery!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Jimmy Corona

Jimmy comes to Surfside from Pasadena, California, where he lived since childhood with his parents and siblings after emigrating from Mexico. After graduating from The Culinary School of America in San Francisco, California, Jimmy worked at some of the state's top hotels, including The Ritz Carlton, The Four Seasons and Le Meridian. Based on his success in California, the Setai Hotel in Miami Beach lured Jimmy to Florida to be their Executive Sous Chef. Now Jimmy is responsible for overseeing operations for the Setai's three eateries, The

Restaurant, The Grill and The Pool Bar.

One of the challenges he constantly faces is finding only the best ingredients for his restaurants' dishes, befitting the five-star rating of the Setai. Interestingly, Jimmy gets many of his fresh produce from his home state of California. Jimmy likes the multi-cultural flavor of Miami. When he's not trying new, exotic dishes, Jimmy tries to stay active by playing golf, soccer or tennis as well as surfing or running. Of course, being an Executive Sous Chef keeps him very busy. Despite the hours,



Jimmy Corona

Jimmy loves what he does. Eventually, he hopes to open his own restaurant, get married and raise a family. Here's hoping Jimmy will someday add his own place to the list of Surfside's fine dining establishments.



Education Committee Update

Speaker Series:

The Education Committee requests your suggestions for topics for its future Speaker Series events. Please email ideas to Lea Coto at Cotolea@aol.com.



New Education Committee Meeting Dates:

Wed, Dec 5, 2007 • Wed, Jan 9, 2008



Jazz On The Beach



The day was sunny and breezy, the music was terrific and the food was outstanding. The beach at 95th Street in Surfside was crowded with friends and families, young and old, having a wonderful time at the 2nd Annual Jazz Concert on Saturday, November 3rd.

While parents enjoyed the great jazz performers on stage, children built sand sculptures to compete for prizes.

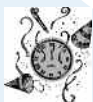
Although the early tide washed away most of their creations before the final judging could take place, the kids didn't seem to mind. They had a great time frolicking in the breaking waves on the beach.

The FOOD COURT, featuring our local restaurants La Rotisserie, Food Gang and Piri-Piri, was a huge success.

The Surfside Tourist Bureau also sincerely thanks the Police, Public Works, Parks and Recreation and Lifeguard Staff who helped coordinate and present an enjoyable, safe environment for our residents and guests.

Our deepest appreciation goes to WDNA Jazz Radio, COSTCO and PUBLIX for their generous support.

TOURIST BUREAU EVENTS



December 31st New Year's Gala for Residents and Guests

Save-The-Dates in 2008!



Sun., March 2
Sat., Sun., March 29 & 30

Music on the Beach including: A Tango Performance
2nd Annual Art & Craft Festival



BUSINESS DISTRICT NEWS

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES....

It has been a time of tremendous change for the business district. Thanks to the progressive leadership of Mayor Charles Burkett and the Commission, with support from Town management and the Tourist Bureau, the Surfside Business Association created many initiatives to spur walking pedestrian traffic into the district.

It all started with Shakespeare On the Beach and the new "On the Beach" theme was the benchmark for the activities that fol-



lowed. Beach events included the Health & Fitness Festival with the Miami Heat Dancers, and Surfside's first annual Art Festival that brought many people to our Town to enjoy a two block area filled with arts & crafts displays and performances. The Jazz on the Beach concert attracted huge crowds and those in attendance



also enjoyed tasty treats at the Food Court, which featured many of the local restaurants. Students from Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor Elementary School displayed over 150 delightful exhibits of original artwork



inside local businesses & restaurants, while their parent's took part in the "Hunt for Art" searching the district for their

child's art. Some of the children's creative work was so impressive many customers and business owners

expressed interest in buying the art.

Outside dining was initiated as a pilot program, together with valet parking. The outside dining program has been so successful that the Commission has adopted it into the Town Code. Refreshed and improved landscaping was done in the business district to enhance the appearance of the commercial area. New signs have been erected to direct individuals towards the shops, restaurants, and the public parking lots.

Surfside now has a number of great restaurants, serving a variety of culinary



delights, to please any palate. From family cooking to exotic, you will find it in our Town. Bon appetite! More information can be obtained at the Surfside Tourist Center (305-864-0722), which is soon to be re-located to the heart of the Business District, or by calling Eli Tourgeman, President of the Surfside Business Association at 305-864-2770.

Please note that all these exciting, positive initiatives would not have been possible without the support of, and interaction between, our elected officials, Town management, the Police Department, the Surfside Tourist Bureau, and Business Association. Congratulations to all for their cooperative, successful efforts to create a better Surfside!



A New Look For Surfside

Collins and Harding Avenues are sporting a new modern look with colorful double banners now enticing people to enjoy all that the Town has to offer.



SURFSIDE BOOK CLUB



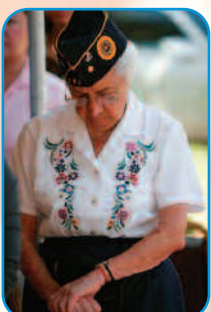
The Surfside Book Club is set to meet on Tuesday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m. The book selection is **"New England White"** by Stephen Carter. Join other Surfside readers for fun and lively discussion. Please be sure to confirm date, time, and place by contacting Kim at: kimjo614@the-beach.net

SURFSIDERS, YOU MAY RISK BEING TOWED!

Please be courteous and do not block your neighbors' driveway, especially when parking in the vicinity of the 96th Street Park.

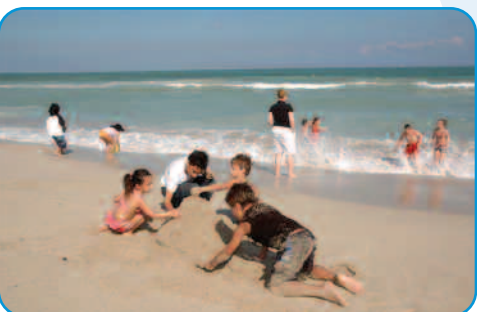


VETERANS' DAY SERVICE





Jazz On The Beach







HAUNTED HOUSE

